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WYOMING LABOR FORCE TRENDS

VOL. 26 NO. 2 FEB. 1989

TREND SETTERS

WYOMING	Nov '88	Dec '88
Labor Force	235,097	229,546
Employment	218,405	212,435
Unemployment	16,692	17,111
Rate (Raw)	7.1	7.5
Rate (S.A.)	7.4	7.3
Mining Hourly Wage	$15.03	$15.09
Avg. Weekly Hours, Mining	42.4	43.9
USA		
Rate (S.A.)	5.4	5.3
Mining Hourly Wage	$12.80	$12.84
Avg. Weekly Hours, Mining	41.9	42.1
Consumer Price Index		
All Urban (1982-1984 = 100)		
U.S. City Avg.	120.3	120.5
Year Change (U.S.)	+4.2	+4.2

S.A.-Seasonally Adjusted

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JANUARY U.S. UNEMPLOYMENT AT 5.4 PERCENT

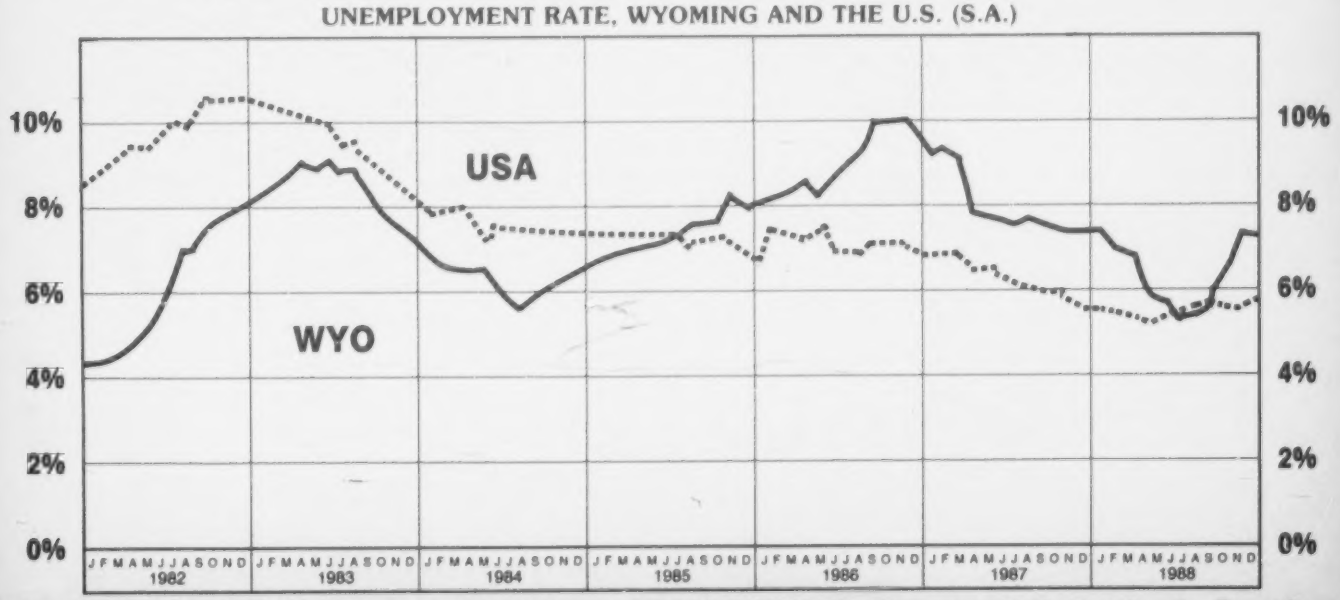
The national seasonally adjusted unemployment rate for January, at 5.4 percent continued in the 5.3 to 5.4 percent range of the past five months. The rate in December was 5.3 percent, continuing down from the year ago rate of 5.8 percent.

The preliminary U.S. annual average unemployment for 1988 was 5.5 percent, a substantial improvement from the 7.0 and 6.2 percent annual average of 1986 and 1987.

SERVICE PRODUCING INDUSTRIES LEAD NATIONAL JOB GAIN

In December the U.S. economy continued to expand with service-producing industries adding almost three million jobs over-the-year. These industries include transportation and public utilities, trade, finance, insurance and real estate, services and government. In addition, construction added 300,000 jobs and manufacturing added 404,000. Mining, on the other hand, was down by 12,000 across the nation.

UNEMPLOYMENT RATE, WYOMING AND THE U.S. (S.A.)



WYOMING EMPLOYMENT SECURITY COMMISSION, Research & Analysis Section
Prepared in conjunction with U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics.

WYOMING UNEMPLOYMENT AT 7.3 PERCENT

The seasonally adjusted statewide rate for December stood at 7.3 percent, two percentage points above the national rate of 5.3 percent. However, Wyoming's rate was down from both November's 7.4 percent and the December, 1987 rate of 7.5 percent. The December labor force indicated a seasonal increase of 419 in the number of unemployed, to 17,111, from November and was down by 250 over-the-year.

DECEMBER LABOR FORCE AT ABOUT YEAR AGO LEVEL

Wyoming's labor force in December increased just slightly to 229,500 from 228,200 in December, 1987. As in November the annual labor force gain in most, 14 of the 23 counties, seemed to be due to the strength of the employed labor force. Again in December, manufacturing, federal government and services had respectable annual employment gains.

Albany and Teton counties shared in the state's lowest unemployment rate, with 4.3 percent each. Fremont County had the highest unemployment at 11.1 percent, followed by Uinta County at 11.0 percent.

In November, nationally, Wyoming's unemployment rate, seasonally adjusted, at 7.1 percent ranked fifth highest in the nation and was the highest in the Rocky Mountain region.

WYOMING'S NONFARM PERSONAL INCOME
Third Quarter 1987 - Third Quarter 1988

Anemic payroll increases in government and construction were major factors in reducing Wyoming's nonfarm personal income growth, according to the Commerce Department's Bureau of Economic Analysis.

The state's government payroll increased only 2.6 percent and construction increased only 2.7 percent when comparing the change between the third quarters of 1987 and 1988. Overall, Wyoming incomes increased an average of 4.2 percent during the period. That increase was the smallest of any state in the nation.

Nationally, nonfarm personal income grew 7.8 percent with the largest percent growth occurring in construction (10.8 percent) and private service (10.1 percent). Mining income for all states expanded 4.8 percent. In Wyoming the mining industry saw a 8.7 percent increase in pay.

TRENDS ARTICLES PUBLISHED IN 1988

January

Wyoming Tourism - Big Business
Wyoming Average Wage Per Job Less Than U.S.
Teton County Tourism

February

Wyoming Poverty On the Rise
ACCRA Cost of Living Comparisons, Third Quarter 1987
1987 Census of Governments

March

Wyoming Occupational Outlook, 1986 Projected to 1989
Industry Employment Projections
Occupational Employment Projections

April

Wyoming Union Membership
Hispanic Growth Continues
ACCRA Cost of Living Comparisons, Fourth Quarter 1987

May

Wyoming Per Capita Income
Wyoming's Population to Decline Through 2010
BLS Looks at Displaced Workers and Mass Layoffs

June

County Per Capita Income
Employment and Earnings Characteristics of Families: First Quarter 1988
Wyoming's Ranking According to Selected Tax Collections

July

Counties With Fluctuations of 300 or More Workers
ACCRA Cost of Living Comparisons, First Quarter 1988
Bureau of Labor Statistics Plans Industrial Code Revisions

August

Number of Unemployed in June Lowest Since 1981
Wyoming Counties . . . A Ten Year Look, Albany and Big Horn Counties

September

Good News for Wyoming's Lumber Industry
Wyoming Counties . . . A Ten Year Look, Campbell and Carbon Counties

October

Wyoming Counties . . . A Ten Year Look, Converse and Crook Counties
Educational Level of U.S. Continues to Rise
ACCRA Cost of Living Comparisons, Second Quarter 1988

November

Wyoming Annual Average Pay Declines
Wyoming Counties . . . A Ten Year Look, Fremont and Goshen Counties

December

Wyoming's Population Expected to Decline Through 2010
Wyoming Counties . . . A Ten Year Look, Hot Springs and Johnson Counties

NATRONA, WYOMING
1976-1986

Natrona County's 1986 population of 70,900 ranked 2nd in the state.

PER CAPITA PERSONAL INCOME

In 1986, Natrona had a per capita personal income (PCPI) of $13,655. This PCPI ranked fifth in the state, and was 107 percent of the state average ($12,774) and 93 percent of the national average ($14,639). In 1976, Natrona's PCPI of $8,541 ranked third in the state. The average annual growth rate of PCPI over the past ten years was 4.8 percent, less than the state average (6.3 percent) and less than the national average (8.2 percent).

TOTAL PERSONAL INCOME

In 1986, Natrona had a total personal income (TPI) of $968,589*. This TPI ranked second in the state and accounted for 14.9 percent of the state total. In 1976, Natrona's TPI of $500,212* ranked first in the state. The average annual growth rate of TPI over the past ten years was 6.8 percent, less than the state average (9.0 percent) and less than the national average (9.3 percent).

EARNINGS BY INDUSTRY

Earnings of persons employed in Natrona increased from $419,428* in 1976 to $709,923* in 1986, an average annual growth rate of 5.4 percent. The largest industries in 1986 were services, which accounted for 19.5 percent of earnings; mining, 15.2 percent; state and local government, 12.6 percent; and retail trade, 10.9 percent. In 1976, the largest industries were mining, with 20.4 percent of earnings; services, with 14.2 percent; construction, 12.1 percent; and retail trade, 10.9 percent. Of the industries that accounted for at least five percent of earnings in 1986, the slowest growing from 1976 to 1986 was construction (8.5 percent of earnings in 1986), which increased at an average annual rate of 1.7 percent; the fastest was state and local government, which increased at an average annual rate of 8.9 percent.

NIOBRARA, WYOMING
1976-1986

Niobrara County's 1986 population of 3,100 ranked 23rd in the state.

PER CAPITA PERSONAL INCOME

In 1986, Niobrara had a per capita personal income (PCPI) of $11,791. This PCPI ranked 15th in the state, and was 92 percent of the state average ($12,774) and 81 percent of the national average ($14,639). In 1976, Niobrara's PCPI of $5,857 ranked 16th in the state. The average annual growth rate of PCPI over the past ten years was 7.2 percent, more than the state average (6.3 percent) and less than the national average (8.2 percent).

TOTAL PERSONAL INCOME

In 1986, Niobrara had a total personal income (TPI) of $36,282*. This TPI ranked 23rd in the state and accounted for 0.6 percent of the state total. In 1976, Niobrara's TPI of $16,915* ranked 23rd in the state. The average annual growth rate of TPI over the past ten years was 7.9 percent, less than the state average (9.0 percent) and less than the national average (9.3 percent).

EARNINGS BY INDUSTRY

Earnings of persons employed in Niobrara increased from $10,258* in 1976 to $17,415* in 1986, an average annual growth rate of 5.4 percent. The largest industries in 1986 were state and local government, which accounted for 25.1 percent of earnings; retail trade, 17.3 percent; and services, 15.4 percent. In 1976, the largest industries were retail trade, with 23.9 percent of earnings; state and local government, 14.8 percent; and services, 13.0 percent. Of the industries that accounted for at least five percent of earnings in 1986, the slowest growing from 1976 to 1986 was retail trade, which increased at an average annual rate of 2.1 percent; the fastest was state and local government, which increased at an average annual rate of 11.2 percent.

*All income estimates with the exception of PCPI are in thousands of dollars.

CONSUMER PRICE INDEX - (1982-1984 = 100)
ALL URBAN

	ALL ITEMS	FOOD & BEVERAGE	HOUSING	ENTER-TAINMENT	APPAREL & UPKEEP	TRANSP.	MEDICAL
December 1988	120.5	120.6	120.2	122.8	118.0	110.8	142.3
Annual % Change	4.4	5.1	4.0	4.6	4.7	3.0	6.9

Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Table 1

WYOMING ECONOMIC INDICATORS

ITEM	DEC 1988[1]	NOV 1988[1]	DEC 1987[2]	Percent change From A Month Ago	Percent change From A Year Ago
WYOMING EMPLOYMENT DATA					
Total Civilian Labor Force	229,546	235,097	228,224	- 2.4%	0.6%
Unemployment	17,111	16,692	17,361	2.5%	- 1.4%
Employed Labor Force	212,435	218,405	210,863	- 2.7%	0.7%
a. Covered Employment (Under Wyo. UI Law)[3]	172,800	174,000	170,023	- 0.7%	1.6%
b. Agriculture[3]	9,311	10,747	9,244	-13.4%	0.7%
Total Unemployment Rate (Wyo.) Seas. Adj.*	7.5% 7.3%*	7.1% 7.4%*	7.6% 7.5%*	XXX	XXX
Total Unemployment Rate (U.S.) Seas. Adj.*	5.0% 5.3%*	5.2% 5.4%*	5.4% 5.8%*	XXX	XXX
Insured Unemployment Rate (Wyo.)[4]	2.5%	1.8%	2.7%	XXX	XXX
HOURS & EARNINGS					
Mining (Production Workers):					
Average Weekly Earnings	$ 662.45	$ 637.27	$ 649.49	4.0%	2.0%
Average Weekly Hours	43.9	42.4	45.9	3.5%	- 4.4%
Average Hourly Earnings	$ 15.09	$ 15.03	$ 14.15	0.4%	6.6%
UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE					
Claims Filed in Local Offices	20,957	17,261	24,851	21.4%	-15.7%
a. Initial	3,569	3,677	4,044	- 2.9%	-11.7%
Weeks Compensated	14,723	12,012	20,708	22.6%	-28.9%
Total Amount Benefits Paid	$ 2,286,506	$ 1,869,083	$ 3,207,035	22.3%	-28.7%
Average Weekly Benefit Payment	$ 154.52	$ 154.90	$ 154.50	- 0.2%	0.0%
EMPLOYMENT SERVICE					
New Applications Received During Month	N.A.	N.A.	3,176	XXX	XXX
Non-Ag. Openings Received	N.A.	N.A.	2,335	XXX	XXX
Non-Ag. Placements	N.A.	N.A.	2,728	XXX	XXX
UNITED STATES DATA					
HOURS & EARNINGS					
Mining (Production Workers):					
Average Weekly Earnings	$ 540.56	$ 536.32	$ 543.06	0.8%	- 0.5%
Average Weekly Hours	42.1	41.9	43.1	0.5%	- 2.3%
Average Hourly Earnings	$ 12.84	$ 12.80	$ 12.60	0.3%	1.9%
PRICE INDEXES					
Consumer Price Index 1982-84 = 100	120.5	120.3	115.4	0.2%	4.2%
Producer Prices, All Commodities 1982-84 = 100	109.0	108.3	104.2	0.6%	4.6%
Food and Beverage 1982-84 = 100	120.6	120.2	114.7	0.3%	5.1%

[1] Preliminary. [2] Final. [3] Not Benchmarked to the Current Population Survey. [4] Rate does not include claimants receiving benefits under extended benefit provisions.

Source: Wyoming Employment Security Commission and Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Table 2

WYOMING
CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE & UNEMPLOYMENT

(Prepared in Cooperation with U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics)

COUNTY	LABOR FORCE					UNEMPLOYMENT			UNEMPLOYMENT RATE		
	DEC 1988	NOV 1988	DEC 1987	%CHANGE NOV-DEC	%CHANGE DEC-DEC	DEC 1988	NOV 1988	DEC 1987	DEC 1988	NOV 1988	DEC 1987
Statewide	229,546	235,097	228,224	- 2.4	0.6	17,111	16,692	17,361	7.5	7.1	7.6
Statewide Seasonally adjusted									7.3	7.4	7.5
Albany	16,950	17,388	16,075	- 2.5	5.4	722	680	739	4.3	3.9	4.6
Big Horn	4,481	5,030	4,439	-10.9	0.9	383	456	413	8.5	9.1	9.3
Campbell	15,023	15,574	14,968	- 3.5	0.4	1,160	1,415	1,022	7.7	9.1	6.8
Carbon	7,556	7,838	7,518	- 3.6	0.5	678	599	712	9.0	7.6	9.5
Converse	5,235	5,477	5,398	- 4.4	- 3.0	478	450	453	9.1	8.2	8.4
Crook	3,285	3,505	3,102	- 6.3	5.9	190	218	195	5.8	6.2	6.3
Fremont	15,531	15,518	15,013	0.1	3.5	1,725	1,336	1,401	11.1	8.6	9.3
Goshen	6,010	6,275	6,024	- 4.2	- 0.2	354	295	375	5.9	4.7	6.2
Hot Springs	3,018	3,090	2,930	- 2.3	3.0	194	161	212	6.4	5.2	7.2
Johnson	3,412	3,627	3,229	- 5.9	5.7	219	242	222	6.4	6.7	6.9
Laramie	35,985	36,466	36,217	- 1.3	- 0.6	2,170	2,337	2,273	6.0	6.4	6.3
Lincoln	5,913	5,970	6,167	- 1.0	- 4.1	618	492	661	10.5	8.2	10.7
Natrona	30,904	31,096	31,006	- 0.6	- 0.3	2,364	2,185	2,465	7.6	7.0	8.0
Niobrara	1,844	1,919	1,826	- 3.9	1.0	99	97	154	5.4	5.1	8.4
Park	12,472	13,073	11,919	- 4.6	4.6	767	894	805	6.1	6.8	6.8
Platte	4,386	4,687	4,191	- 6.4	4.7	422	373	364	9.6	8.0	8.7
Sheridan	11,679	12,021	11,726	- 2.8	- 0.4	782	769	817	6.7	6.4	7.0
Sublette	2,413	2,415	2,678	- 0.1	- 9.9	205	157	306	8.5	6.5	11.4
Sweetwater	17,314	17,714	18,265	- 2.3	- 5.2	1,640	1,526	1,804	9.5	8.6	9.9
Teton	9,365	9,050	8,631	3.5	8.5	403	527	506	4.3	5.8	5.9
Uinta	8,648	8,995	8,966	- 3.9	- 3.5	947	920	929	11.0	10.2	10.4
Washakie	4,832	4,975	4,683	- 2.9	3.2	302	289	344	6.3	5.8	7.3
Weston	3,285	3,393	3,250	- 3.2	1.1	285	274	188	8.7	8.1	5.8
United States									5.0	5.2	5.4
United States Seasonally adjusted									5.3	5.4	5.8

*The data contained in this table includes updated procedures mandated by the U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics. In addition The 1985 data has been benchmarked to the Current Population Survey as conducted in Wyoming.

Table 3

NON-FARM WAGE & SALARY EMPLOYMENT IN WYOMING [1]

(Prepared in Cooperation with U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics)

INDUSTRY	EMPLOYMENT (In thousands)			% Change in Total Emp.	
	DEC 1988[2]	NOV 1988[3]	DEC 1987	NOV 1988	DEC 1987
	Total	Total	Total	to DEC 1988	to DEC 1988
WYOMING NON-FARM WAGE & SALARY EMPLOYMENT					
Total Non-Farm Wage & Salary Employment	177.2	179.5	177.2	- 1.3%	0.0%
Manufacturing	8.4	8.6	8.3	- 2.3%	1.2%
Durable Goods	3.8	3.9	3.6	- 2.6%	5.6%
Nondurable Goods	4.6	4.7	4.7	- 2.1%	- 2.1%
Petroleum & Coal Products	0.9	0.9	0.9	0.0%	0.0%
Total Non-Manufacturing Employment	168.8	170.9	168.9	- 1.2%	- 0.1%
Mining	17.5	17.8	17.8	- 1.7%	- 1.7%
Contract Construction	7.2	8.4	8.2	-14.3%	-12.2%
Transportation & Public Utilities	12.9	12.6	12.7	2.4%	1.6%
Railroad Transportation	2.0	2.0	1.9	0.0%	5.3%
Transportation except Railroads	5.0	4.7	4.9	6.4%	2.0%
Comm., Elect., Gas & Sani. Serv.	5.9	5.9	5.9	0.0%	0.0%
Wholesale & Retail Trade	40.1	40.2	40.3	- 0.3%	- 0.5%
Wholesale Trade	6.6	6.6	6.8	0.0%	- 2.9%
Retail Trade	33.5	33.6	33.5	- 0.3%	0.0%
Food Stores	5.0	5.1	4.9	- 2.0%	2.0%
Automotive Dealers & Serv. Stat.	5.2	5.2	5.2	0.0%	0.0%
Eating & Drinking Places	12.2	12.4	12.3	- 1.6%	- 0.8%
Finance, Insurance & Real Estate	7.2	7.2	7.3	0.0%	- 1.4%
Services	31.5	31.4	30.9	0.3%	1.9%
Personal Services	1.8	1.8	1.8	0.0%	0.0%
Medical & Other Health Services	7.9	7.9	7.6	0.0%	4.0%
Government	52.4	53.3	51.7	- 1.7%	1.4%
Federal Government	8.0	7.9	7.4	1.3%	8.1%
State & Local Government	44.4	45.4	44.3	- 2.2%	0.2%
State Government	13.3	13.3	13.3	0.0%	0.0%
Local Government	31.1	32.1	31.0	- 3.1%	0.3%

(See Footnotes at End of Table)

Table 3 (Cont'd)

NON-FARM WAGE & SALARY EMPLOYMENT IN WYOMING [1]

(Publication of Cheyenne data is not sanctioned by the Bureau of Labor Statistics)

INDUSTRY	EMPLOYMENT (In thousands)			% Change in Total Emp.	
	DEC 1988[2]	NOV 1988[3]	DEC 1987	NOV 1988	DEC 1987
	Total	Total	Total	to DEC 1988	to DEC 1988
CASPER (Natrona County)					
TOTAL NON-FARM WAGE & SALARY EMPLOYMENT	26.8	26.9	26.5	- 0.4%	1.1%
Manufacturing	1.4	1.4	1.3	0.0%	7.7%
Nondurable Goods	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.0%	0.0%
Petroleum & Coal Products	0.3	0.3	0.4	0.0%	-25.0%
Total Non-Manufacturing Employment	25.4	25.5	25.2	- 0.4%	0.8%
Mining	2.7	2.7	2.6	0.0%	3.9%
Oil & Gas Extraction	2.5	2.5	2.4	0.0%	4.2%
Other Mining, Quarrying, etc.	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.0%	0.0%
Contract Construction	1.2	1.4	1.2	-14.3%	0.0%
Transportation & Public Utilities	1.7	1.7	1.7	0.0%	0.0%
Wholesale & Retail Trade	8.2	8.2	8.0	0.0%	2.5%
Wholesale Trade	2.4	2.4	2.3	0.0%	4.4%
Retail Trade	5.8	5.8	5.7	0.0%	1.8%
Finance, Insurance & Real Estate	1.4	1.4	1.4	0.0%	0.0%
Services	5.2	5.2	5.4	0.0%	- 3.7%
Government	5.0	4.9	4.9	2.0%	2.0%
Federal Government	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.0%	0.0%
State & Local Government	4.4	4.3	4.3	2.3%	2.3%
CHEYENNE (Laramie County)					
TOTAL NON-FARM WAGE & SALARY EMPLOYMENT	30.2	30.1	29.9	0.3%	1.0%
Manufacturing	1.1	1.1	1.1	0.0%	0.0%
Total Non-Manufacturing Employment	29.1	29.0	28.8	0.3%	1.0%
Contract Construction	1.8	1.8	1.7	0.0%	5.9%
Transportation & Public Utilities	2.5	2.5	2.4	0.0%	4.2%
Wholesale & Retail Trade	7.1	7.1	7.2	0.0%	- 1.4%
Wholesale Trade	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.0%	0.0%
Retail Trade	6.4	6.4	6.5	0.0%	- 1.5%
Finance, Insurance & Real Estate	1.8	1.8	1.8	0.0%	0.0%
Services	5.7	5.7	5.6	0.0%	1.8%
Government	10.1	10.0	10.0	1.0%	1.0%
Federal Government	2.7	2.7	2.8	0.0%	- 3.6%
State & Local Government	7.4	7.3	7.2	1.4%	2.8%

[1] Estimates include all full and part-time wage and salary workers in non-ag establishments who worked or received pay during the week which includes the 12th of the month. Proprietors, self-employeds, domestic servants and personnel of the armed forces are excluded. [2] Subject to revision. [3] Revised figures.